

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 087019
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:JPLORENZ/ATP
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
IO/UNP:RLBARRY
EUR/WE:BJBE GEL (SUBS)
NEA/ARN:MDRAPER
S/S-O:LRFLEISCHER

-----114570 050235Z /21

O P 050112Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 087019

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PBOF, PEPR, LE, IS, XF

SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON

REF: BEIRUT 1833

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1. EMBASSY PARIS SHOULD EXPLORE THOROUGHLY WITH QUAI THE PROBLEMS BEING ENCOUNTERED IN GETTING LEBANON TO COMMIT ITS ARMY TO THE SOUTH, AND SOLICIT FRENCH HELP IN PERSUADING LEBANESE TO MOVE RAPIDLY. DRAWING ON REFTTEL, EMBASSY SHOULD DESCRIBE AMB PARKER'S APPROACH TO SARKIS AND THE LATTER'S RELUCTANCE TO SEND TROOPS SOUTH IN FORCE. YOU

SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT WE BELIEVE LEBANON SHOULD ESTABLISH A FIRM SCHEDULE FOR INTRODUCING ITS MILITARY BELOW THE LITANI, AND THAT WE NEED FRANCE'S HELP IN PERSUADING LEBANON TO SET UP SUCH A TIMETABLE AND STICK TO IT. FRANCE WOULD SEEM PARTICULARLY WELL PLACED TO ADDRESS SOME OF LEBANON'S SECURITY CONCERNS BECAUSE OF FRENCH CONTINGENT'S FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE OF THE SITUATION IN THE SOUTH.

2. ADDRESSEES SHOULD ENSURE THAT ALL MESSAGES ON SOUTHERN LEBANON ARE SENT TO USUN.

3. SEE JERUSALEM 983 FOR UPDATE ON SITUATION. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, ARMED FORCES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE087019
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPLORENZ/ATP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780146-0320
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780489/aaaacxvu.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 27fbedb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 BEIRUT 1833
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3064548
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH LEBANON
TAGS: PBOR, PEPR, LE, IS, XF
To: PARIS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/27fbedb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014